

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING MEETING

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Aging and Adult Services Agency
Ramada Hotel & Conference Center, American Room
7501 W. Saginaw Hwy; Lansing, MI 48933
May 20, 2016 @9:00 AM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Wishart called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Commissioner Zamora.

COMMISSION ROLL CALL

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Dona Wishart, Matthew Adeyanju, Michael Burri, , Sibyl Ellis, Joan Ilardo, Gerald Irby, Kathleen LaTosch, Harold Mast, Donna Murray-Brown, Richard Ortega, Michael Sheehan, Linda Strohl and Kristie Zamora.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (excused)

Douglas Chalgian.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY (AASA) STAFF PRESENT

Richard Kline, Scott Wamsley, Wendi Middleton, Sarah Slocum, Steve Betterly, Dan Doezenia, Carol Dye, Annette Gamez, Dawn Jacobs, Gloria Lanum, Phil Lewis and Lauren Swanson-Aprill.

VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT

Jamie Zaniewski of the Governor's office, Norm Saari of the MPSC, Sandra Philpott-Burke of the MI Agency for Energy, John Castillon, President UAW Local 123, and Consumers Energy staff Amy Jo Schultz Porter, Sue Gillies, Amy Walt, Bridget Landenberger, Marcy Stump, Windy McClure, Chad Miller, Patrick Ennis, Any Walt, Terry Dodoes, Miranda Meachum, and their guests, Fred Schultz, Sue Blyict, Jim Porter and Jessica Schultz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Wishart asked to add the Norway Nutrition Program Update to the draft agenda under Other, and asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mast to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the April 18, 2016 minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mast to approve the minutes, as presented.

Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

None.

COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT

Commissioner Wishart welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Linda Strohl, who has been very active with the State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC).

Commissioner Wishart announced there will be a special luncheon event today to honor the Gatekeeper of the Year at 11:30 AM, noting if CSA business isn't concluded by then, the meeting will continue after the luncheon event.

Commissioner Wishart thanked AASA staff for their support of the CSA's efforts, and focus on the CSA's diligence to tasks at hand.

Commissioner Wishart stated she attended the American TeleMedicine Association meeting and there are some amazing technologies coming forward that should help in the future to provide home care.

Commissioner Wishart appointed Commissioner Donna Murray-Brown to lead a committee to focus on the CSA's advocacy efforts, and to clearly define processes, priorities and recommendations coming to the Commission, through her term of 7-28-2018, noting appointees to that committee will be named in the future.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY (AASA) ACTING EXEC. DIRECTOR REPORT

Acting Executive Director, Richard Kline stated he's been scheduled to keynote at several events originally tasked to AASA's previous Executive Director, Kari Sederburg, who has been at some of the events where she's been honored with several recognitions awards.

Director Kline stated as the new acting director, he is very appreciative of AASA's staff support and assistance.

Director Kline stated the Older American's Act was reauthorized, which provides structure to the aging network and funding, and he asked for continued advocacy so Legislators see the value in that.

Director Kline stated the 9th annual Older Michiganiaan's Day (OMD) advocacy event took place where folks from around the state gathered at the State Capitol, noting this was the highest attended OMD event yet. While there, he had the honor of presenting the Senior Citizen of the Year award to a volunteer from Newaygo for her service to the community, family and everyone around her.

Director Kline stated he attended the Alzheimer's Advocacy Day event that took place at the State Capitol where constituents gathered and met with Legislators.

Director Kline stated he attended the Area Agency on Aging Association of Michigan annual two-day conference, where he and Medicaid Director Chris Priest were keynote speakers.

Director Kline stated AASA has been working hard with the local AAA in Flint to get water, filters and nutritious meals out to folks in that community.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Phil Lewis, AASA's Public Affairs staff, provided handouts and updates on AASA's state budget as it goes through the legislative process, the Dark Store tax assessment issues, and the Heat and Eat program, also known as the LIHEAP program.

Commissioner Wishart stated funding of the Heat and Eat program came up at the Older Michiganian's Day event and Commissioner Ilardo was approached to advocate on this matter. Commissioner Ilardo then requested a letter of support be sent on behalf of the Commission, and at the time, this matter appeared to be under a tight timeframe to send a letter of support in advance of the Legislature's budget discussions, but their discussions were extended.

BUSINESS ITEMS (Part 1)

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve sending a letter of support on behalf of the CSA to appropriate members of the Legislature to fund the Heat and Eat program.

Commissioner Murray-Brown made a motion to submit a letter in support of the Heat and Eat Program, as presented.

Commissioner Sheehan seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Sarah Slocum, State Long Term Care Ombudsman, provided a handout and updates on legislative issues she's been tracking. One is on a set of bills related to the release of prisoners deemed medically frail, from the correctional system into a health care facility, and she does not endorse this concept.

It was stated additional information is needed before the commission can formally oppose or support this legislation, and more discussion would be beneficial to determine if there are other alternatives.

BUSINESS ITEMS (Part 2)

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the advocacy committee to address and review Medical Parole Bills, HBs 5978, 5079, 5080 and 5081 led by Commissioner Murray-Brown.

Commissioner Adeyanju made a motion to approve the advocacy committee to address and review Medical Parole Bills, as presented.

Commissioner Ilardo seconded this motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Ms. Slocum stated there is a hearing on these bills the following week, and she's uncertain how quickly that committee will move on the bills, which is pretty far in the process, but not quite done. She noted if they do get moved out of committee and the Governor signs them, it's ultimately based on the CDC's support of Medicaid funding, which is highly unlikely.

Commissioner LaTosch suggested it might be useful to expand that to not just elders who are in prison, but also to those in the reentry process.

Ms. Slocum stated there's been a lot of activity around the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans this year and their critical audit recently released on how they are operating. She stated the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has made several changes, including hiring a new director and CEO who has made significant changes, such as adding more vendors to recruit additional staff to address the staffing shortage; revamped the complaint process and shortened the timeframe from months to initiating an investigation within days; removed the previous onsite administrators and replaced them with new leadership to bring in more and better changes and improvements; worked with Commissioner Burri's foundation, Friends of Michigan Veteran's Homes, Inc., who revamped the gift shop that previously was only open a couple of hours a week and charged excessive prices on the few items they had, to being open almost every day, increased inventory, and charge much more reasonable prices.

Ms. Slocum stated there is legislation that has been proposed by Senator MacGregor to create a Veteran's Ombudsman for the facilities in Grand Rapids and Marquette. She discussed an expansion of the Long Term Care Ombudsman with Senator MacGregor, rather than a separate ombudsman, as his bill would create an ombudsman that would report directly to a Legislative Council, which is more like an audit or oversight agency, rather than an advocate ombudsman, but he wants to keep his bill as is. Ms. Slocum also discussed setting up the facilities to be licensed and certified for Medicare and Medicaid. She will provide additional updates as things progress.

Ms. Slocum stated the Request for Proposal for the State Long Term Care Ombudsman office approved earlier this year was published and will be out for 30 days for entities that meet the criteria to place bids. A review committee will look at all the bids and bring a recommendation to the Commission, hopefully at the July CSA meeting.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Scott Wamsley, Acting AASA Deputy Director, provided updates and handouts on AASA's grants, expenditure report, and the ongoing legislative budget process and revenue conferencing committee.

The Commission took a break at 10:25 AM, and resumed business at 10:34 AM.

BUSINESS ITEMS (Part 3)

Request for Approval of Substantive Amendment to Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Tri-County Office on Aging (TCOA)

Steve Betterly, AASA staff, stated TCOA's AIP was approved last fall, and a provider's contract ended early, resulting in left over money. TCOA felt the best option would be to reprogram the money towards home delivered meals.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mast to approve the substantive amendment to FY 2016 AIP for TCOA, as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion.

This motion was approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

Approval of Updated 2015-2016 State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) Report

Commissioner Michael Sheehan, SAC Chair, provided the updated SAC Report, and requested approval to approve the revised SAC report, as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Murray-Brown to approve the updated SAC Report, as presented. Commissioner Adeyanju seconded the motion.

This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Select and Approve SAC 2016-2017 Report Charge

Commissioner Michael Sheehan, SAC Chair, provided a list of options for the SAC to report on with suggestions garnered from Commissions, SAC members, folks in the field of aging, and the general public. The Commission voted and the majority selected the new charge of Creative Aging – using the arts to enhance quality of life for seniors.

A motion was made by Commissioner Adeyanju to approve the SAC 2016-2017 report charge, Creative Aging – using the arts and enrichment activities to enhance quality of life for seniors, as presented. Commissioner Zamora seconded the motion.

There was additional discussion that this report should result in best practices and impact to the AIPs so the field has enhanced opportunity for creative aging being rolled into programs.

This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

FY 2017-2019 Multi-Year Plan (MYP) & 2017 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)

Commission Overview Part II

Dan Doezema, AASA staff, provided a handout and overview of the FY 2017-2019 MYP and 2017 AIP, and details on scope of services and dual service coordination continuum.

Update Previously Approved Funding/Grants on Associated Ongoing Activities

Mr. Wamsley stated AASA applied to the Federal government to use unspent MMAP, Inc. previously approved funds intended for administrative purposes, but were not used, and AASA received approval to re-appropriate these funds toward program purposes.

Other - Norway Nutrition Program Update

Mr. Doezema provided an overview and update on the UP Norway Nutrition program provider & Dickenson Iron County agency issues, and steps that followed in coordination with the UP AAA.

The Commission paused for the Gatekeeper Program luncheon event at 11:35 AM, and resumed business at 12:23 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM on Friday, June 17, 2016, at the Hotel Indigo, located at 263 W. Grandview Pkwy. in Traverse City. A public hearing on AASA's state plan will be held at this same location after this meeting at 1:00 PM.

These meetings are open to the public and those needing accommodations to attend should contact Carol Dye at least five business days prior to the meeting.

The next SAC meeting is scheduled for 9:30 AM on Thursday, June 16, 2016, at the Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center, located at 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., in Lansing. Commissioner Ortega volunteered to attend and represent the CSA at that SAC meeting.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to adjourn this meeting.

Commissioner Sheehan made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Adeyanju seconded this motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

This meeting ended at 12:25 PM.